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SECURITY INFORMATION

RESEARCH 2-6

CONFIDENTIAL

3 June 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

THROUGH : Deputy Director/Intelligence


SUBJECT : Recommendation on NSC 152

1. Document NSC 152 prepared by the Planning Board for Council consideration provides a clear statement of current US policy in the field of economic defense. The effects of measures applied by the US Government and other Western Governments in restricting trade with the Soviet Bloc are concisely analyzed in terms of impact on Soviet Bloc economy, economic problems created for our Allies, and public opinion reaction both here and abroad.

2. The document states that increased restrictions in East-West trade would have only short-term adverse effects on the Soviet economy, would create serious economic problems for our Allies, which might require increased foreign aid, would be generally supported by US opinion, and would not be received favorably by our Allies.

3. Both the basic statement of the current situation as well as the analysis of the probable results of each of the alternative actions submitted for consideration, insofar as they relate to the economic effects on the Soviet Bloc, reflect the views held by OPR based on available intelligence. Stated probable economic results of cessation of East-West trade are in complete agreement with the conclusions of NIE-59.

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1) DECLASSIFIED

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